Pradesh has requested for financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure at Devaria, Lalitpur, Bilari, Ayodhya, Chitrakoot and for purchase of adventure sports equipment, tents and flood-lighting of monuments.

[*English*]

PROPOSAL FOR NEW TRAIN BETWEEN BOMBAY-MANMAD

1064. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a new train between Bombay and Manmad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith other facilities to be provided by the railways on these two stations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

OIL RESERVES IN GUJARAT AND WEST BENGAL

1065. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether preliminary survey had shown that areas in Gujarat and West Bengal have enough oil to meet the country's petroleum needs; and

(b) if so, the steps taken|proposed by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to explore the oil in those States ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

REVISION OF RATE OF ROYALTY TO GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR

1066. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV :

MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has requested the Union Government to revise the rates of royalty on coal by fixing it at 40 per cent of its pits-head volume of coal on ad valorem basis;

(b) if so, when this request was received by the Union Government; and

(c) the action taken thereon so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, the request of the Government of Bihar for fixing the rate of royalty on coal at 40 per cent of the pit-head price on ad valorem basis was received in March, 1991. The proposal to revise the rates of royalty on coal is under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

PERMISSION TO PRIVATE AIRLINES

1067. SHRI YASWANTRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for allowing private airlines to operate in the country ;

(b) the number of private airlines allowed to operate and the number of pending cases seeking permission of the Government;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to hand over the air services to private airlines for the places having landing facilities and without any air services there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) The guidelines have been laid down in A.I.C. No. 24|1990.

(b) Six private airlines have been issued Air Taxi Operators Permit and 18 applicants have been issued 'No Objection' for issue of Air Taxi Permit.

(c) The air taxis are free to operate to all airports open to operation of scheduled air services.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

CONSTRUCTION OF SHED ON PLATFORM OF BILPUR STATION

1068. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a shed on platform No. 1 at Bilpur railway station;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon: and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Sheds at stations are provided as per norms, based on the volume of traffic dealt with. Since the volume of traffic dealt with at Bilpur is meagre, provision of sheds is not justified.

[*English*]

CONVERSION OF CALICUT AIRPORT AS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

1069. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any plans to convert Calicut Airport as a Customs Airport so as to enable international services to be operated from there; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

ALLOTMENT OF PETROL/DIESEL OUTLETS AND LPG AGENCIES

1070. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government for allotting new petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies;

(b) the number of LPG agencies and petrol/diesel retail outlets allotted to the educated unemployed, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during last three years in Rajasthan;

(c) the number of distributorships proposed to be allotted in the current year; and

(d) the names of the districts in Rajasthan where such allotments are likely to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) New petrol/diesel outlets and LPG dealerships are based on factors including volume/distance norms, population of towns, marketing plan and eligibility criteria for candidates etc.

(b) 9 LPG distributorships and 15 petrol/diesel retail oulet dealerships.

(c) and (d) LPG distributorships and petrol/diesel retail outlet dealerships are opened in different cities as per marketing plans and policy in force from time to time.